

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A power tool comprising:

a body housing a motor and a drive mechanism driven by the motor and providing a first grip surface, the body having a rearward end and defining a body axis;

a hand grip connected to the rearward end of the body, the hand grip providing a second grip surface and being supported for movement relative to the body between a first position, in which the first grip surface and the second grip surface are generally aligned, a second position, in which the second grip surface defines an obtuse angle with respect to the body axis, and a third position, in which the second grip surface is generally perpendicular to the first grip surface;

a locking mechanism including a projection for selectively locking the hand grip in each of the first position, the second position, and the third position, the locking mechanism projection being moveable between a locked condition, in which the locking mechanism prevents movement of the hand grip relative to the body, and an unlocked condition; and

an actuator for moving the locking mechanism projection between the locked condition and the unlocked condition, the locking mechanism allowing pivoting movement of the hand grip between the first, second, and third positions only when the actuator is actuated by an operator, wherein the actuator moves in a direction substantially perpendicular to movement of the projection;

wherein the power tool is a reciprocating saw, and wherein the reciprocating saw further comprises a reciprocating spindle for supporting a tool element, the drive mechanism being operably connected to the spindle for causing reciprocation of the spindle.

2. (Original) The power tool of claim 1, and further comprising a switch assembly operable to electrically connect the motor to a power source, at least a portion of the switch assembly being supported on the hand grip for movement with the hand grip relative to the body and relative to the motor.

3. (Original) The power tool of claim 2, and further comprising a wiring arrangement electrically connecting the switch assembly to the motor and accommodating movement of the switch assembly with the hand grip relative to the body and relative to the motor.

4. (Original) The power tool of claim 1, wherein the hand grip has a first end pivotally connected to the rearward end of the body and a second end, the hand grip including a trigger positioned intermediate the first end and the second end.

Claim 5 (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) The power tool of claim 1, wherein the locking mechanism includes a first recess, a second recess and a third recess defined by one of the body and the hand grip, and a projection defined by the other of the body and the hand grip, the projection being engageable in the first recess to lock the hand grip in the first position, in the second recess to lock the hand grip in the second position, and in the third recess to lock the hand grip in the third position.

Claim 7 (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) The power tool of claim 1, wherein the locking mechanism is biased toward a locked condition, in which the locking mechanism prevents movement of the hand grip relative to the body.

9. (Original) The power tool of claim 1, and further comprising a cord connected to the hand grip and operable to electrically connect the motor to a power source.

10. (Original) The power tool of claim 1, wherein the rearward end of the body houses the motor, and wherein the hand grip is pivotably connected to the body rearwardly of the motor.

Claim 11 (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) A power tool comprising:
 - a body housing a motor and a drive mechanism driven by the motor, the body having a rearward end;
 - a hand grip connected to the rearward end of the body, the hand grip being supported for movement relative to the body;
 - a locking mechanism for locking the hand grip in a position relative to the body, the locking mechanism having a locked condition, in which the locking mechanism prevents movement of the hand grip relative to the body, and an unlocked position; and
 - an actuator extending outwardly from one of the body and the hand grip and operable to move the locking mechanism between the locked condition and the unlocked condition;

wherein the body provides a first grip surface and defines a body axis, wherein the hand grip provides a second grip surface, and wherein the hand grip is supported for movement relative to the body about a pivot axis toward a position, in which the second grip surface is generally perpendicular to the first grip surface;

wherein the hand grip is movable relative to the body only when an operator actuates the actuator to move the locking mechanism to the unlocked position; and

wherein the power tool is a reciprocating saw, and wherein the reciprocating saw further comprises a reciprocating spindle for supporting a tool element, the drive mechanism being operably connected to the spindle for causing reciprocation of the spindle; and

wherein one of the body and the hand grip includes an outwardly extending protuberance having an engagement surface extending more than 180 degrees around the pivot axis, and wherein the one of the body and the hand grip provides a recess adjacent to the protuberance for receiving a portion of the other of the body and the hand grip during pivoting movement of the hand grip relative to the body.

13. (Currently Amended) The power tool of claim 12, wherein the position is a first position, in which the first grip surface and the second grip surface are generally aligned, and wherein the hand grip is supported for movement relative to the body between the first position, a second position, in which ~~the first grip surface and the second grip surface are generally aligned~~ the second grip surface defines an obtuse angle with respect to the body axis, and a third position, in which the second grip surface ~~defines an obtuse angle with respect to the body axis is generally perpendicular to the first grip surface~~.

14. (Original) The power tool of claim 13, wherein the locking mechanism selectively locks the hand grip in each of the first position, the second position, and the third position.

15. (Previously Presented) The power tool of claim 14, wherein the locking mechanism includes a first recess, a second recess and a third recess defined by one of the body and the hand grip, and a projection defined by the other of the body and the hand grip, the projection being engageable in the first recess to lock the hand grip in the first position, in the second recess to lock the hand grip in the second position, and in the third recess to lock the hand grip in the third position.

16. (Original) The power tool of claim 12, wherein the locking mechanism is biased toward the locked condition.

17. (Original) The power tool of claim 12, and further comprising a switch assembly operable to electrically connect the motor to a power source, at least a portion of the switch assembly being supported on the hand grip for movement with the hand grip relative to the body and relative to the drive mechanism.

18. (Original) The power tool of claim 17, and further comprising a wiring arrangement electrically connecting the switch assembly to the motor and accommodating movement of the switch assembly with the hand grip relative to the body and relative to the drive mechanism.

19. (Original) The power tool of claim 12, wherein the hand grip has a first end pivotally connected to the rearward end of the body and a second end, the hand grip including a trigger positioned intermediate the first end and the second end.

20. (Original) The power tool of claim 12, and further comprising a cord connected to the hand grip and operable to electrically connect the motor to a power source.

21. (Original) The power tool of claim 12, wherein the rearward end of the body houses the motor, and wherein the hand grip is pivotably connected to the body rearwardly of the motor.

Claim 22 (Canceled).

23. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a power tool, the power tool including a body housing a motor and a drive mechanism driven by the motor and providing a first grip surface, the body having a rearward end and defining a body axis, a hand grip connected to the rearward end of the body, the hand grip providing a second grip surface and being supported for movement relative to the body about a pivot axis, a locking mechanism operable to lock the hand grip in a position relative to the body, an actuator operable to move the locking mechanism from a locked condition to an unlocked condition, and a reciprocating spindle for supporting a tool element, said method comprising the acts of:

positioning the hand grip in a first position in which the first grip surface and the second grip surface are generally aligned;

operating the power tool in the first position;

moving the hand grip relative to the body to a second position in which the second grip surface defines an obtuse angle with respect to the body axis;

operating the power tool in the second position;

moving the hand grip relative to the body to a third position in which the second grip surface is generally perpendicular to the first grip surface;

operating the power tool in the third position;

moving the locking mechanism between the locked condition, in which the locking mechanism prevents movement of the hand grip relative to the body, and the unlocked condition; and

moving the actuator to move the locking mechanism between the locked condition and the unlocked condition;

wherein operating the power tool in the first, second, and third positions includes reciprocating one of the tool element and the spindle relative to the body; and

wherein the hand grip is movable relative to the body to the first position, the second position, and the third position only when an operator actuates the actuator to move the locking mechanism to the unlocked condition; and

wherein one of the body and the hand grip includes an outwardly extending protuberance having an engagement surface extending more than 180 degrees around the pivot axis, and the one of the body and the hand grip provides a recess adjacent to the protuberance for

receiving a portion of the other of the body and the hand grip when the hand grip is moved relative to the body to the third position.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the moving acts include pivoting the hand grip relative to the body.

Claims 25-26 (Canceled).

Please add the following new claim:

27. (New) The power tool of claim 12, wherein the recess extends beyond the 180 degrees.